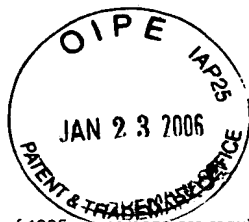


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PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/540,588
	Filing Date	January 6, 2006
	First Named Inventor	Markus VAN DER LAAN
	Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Attorney Docket Number	0470-051953

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Documents <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	William H. Logsdon The Webb Law Firm, P.C.
Signature	
Date	January 20, 2006

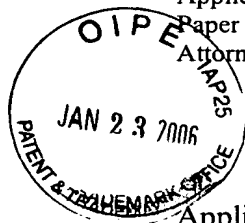
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Christine A. Canavan		
Signature		Date	January 20, 2006

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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{W0242286.1}

Application No.: 10/540,588
Paper dated: January 20, 2006
Attorney Docket No. 0470-051953



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/540,588
Applicant : **Markus VAN DER LAAN**
Received : June 24, 2005
Title : **ACTUATING DEVICE FOR A TOWING
DEVICE ON A TUGBOAT**
International Application No. : PCT/NL2003/000935
International Filing Date : 24 December 2003
Priority Date Claimed : 24 December 2002
Confirmation No. : 3560

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby submits this Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A. and copies of the references which are not United States Patents or United States Published Patent Applications.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 20, 2006.

Christine A. Canavan

(Name of Person Mailing Document)

Christine A. Canavan 01/20/2006
Signature Date

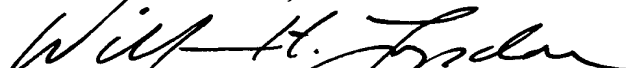
The relevance of German Patent DE 11 57 501 B is indicated in the International Search Report, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3), no fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, as it is being submitted before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One original and two copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

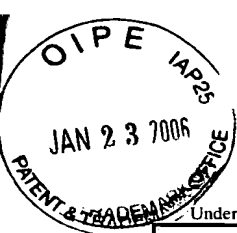
Respectfully submitted,

THE WEBB LAW FIRM, P.C.

By



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PTO/SB/08a (07-05)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/540,588
				Filing Date	January 6, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Markus VAN DER LAAN
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	0470-051953

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,694,877	12-09-1997	HVIDE	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 11 57 501 b	11-14-1960	PIEKEN		
		FR 2 306 868 A *	11-05-1976	WESER		
		WO 01/30650 A	05-03-2001	VAN DER LAAN		
		* English language abstract enclosed				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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{W0241812.1}